



TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



State Statistician: Debra K. Kenerson
P.O. Box 41505
Nashville, TN 37204-1505
1-800-626-0987

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

Released Weekly April - November

2003 Weather Crop 01

Issued 3:00 P.M. 04/07/03

Week Ending April 6, 2003

SPRING ARRIVES IN FULL SWING

A relatively warm, dry spring has allowed farmers to progress rapidly with field activities, especially planting corn. Corn planting progress was off to a record-tying start, equal to the pace of 1995. Other activities included fertilizer spraying, seeding tobacco beds, and land preparation for planting cotton. Top-dressing wheat neared completion. Towards the end of the week, however, heavy showers brought field work to a standstill. Growers were delayed only slightly and should be in the field this week, weather permitting. Precipitation averaged slightly above normal in the West and East sections of the state and well above normal elsewhere. There were 6 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 87 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 6, 2003					CONDITION: On April 4, 2003					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2002	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat - Jointed	52	N/A	46	62	Winter Wheat	0	3	19	60	18
Winter Wheat - Top Dressed	95	N/A	89	92	Apples	0	1	24	68	7
Corn - Planted	28	N/A	4	12	Alfalfa Hay	0	3	25	56	16
Apples - Budding or Beyond	75	N/A	76	78	Other Hay	0	3	32	56	9
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	38	N/A	38	42	Pastures	0	4	26	57	13
Peaches - Budding or Beyond	87	N/A	93	94	Cattle	0	6	25	56	13
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	62	N/A	67	74						

CORN: Corn planting was well underway and off to a good start. This is the highest percentage of corn planted at this time since 1995.

WHEAT: Winter wheat jointing was slightly above last year, but still behind the 5-year average. Top dressing neared completion, and the crop was rated in mostly good condition.

FRUIT: The apple and peach crops came through the winter in good condition with only slight freeze damage. Peach development has been trailing both last year and the 5-year average.

PASTURES, HAY & CATTLE: Pastures and hay fields improved daily with recent warm weather boosting growth. Hay was still in high demand in some areas. Cattle were rated in good-to-excellent condition, while pastures were rated in mostly good condition.

This is the first issue of the *Tennessee Weather & Crop Bulletin* for the 2003 crop season. The Bulletin is released weekly throughout the crop season ending around early November. It is based on reports received from county agents with the Extension Service and local cooperators. It can be accessed each Monday afternoon shortly after 3:00 CDT at our website <http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 04/06/03 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 04/06/03				Current Week	Rain	Current	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	04/06/03	Days	Since January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	78	28	59	+1	0.25	1	15.11	+0.21	26	+12
Tri-City_RGNL_A	74	26	51	-2	0.64	3	12.00	+0.97	7	+7
Brownsville_TN	77	31	58	+2	0.35	1	12.84	-1.98	24	+18
Chattanooga/Lov	77	29	58	+2	1.13	1	15.16	-1.54	20	+14
Clarksville_Sew	77	28	57	+4	0.27	1	10.71	-3.92	24	+18
Cookeville	75	25	54	+2	0.53	1	17.25	+1.24	14	+14
Covington	77	31	57	+2	0.18	1	12.82	-1.94	19	+9
Crossville_AP	74	25	54	+3	1.05	1	15.16	-0.89	15	+15
Dickson_AG	75	23	57	+3	1.30	2	13.54	-1.49	18	+12
Dover_1W	77	28	56	+3	0.90	1	12.38	-2.54	18	+12
Dyersburg	77	30	59	+2	0.65	1	10.14	-3.62	22	+10
Erwin_1W	78	29	52	+3	0.94	3	11.60	-0.73	5	-1
Huntingdon_Wate	78	29	58	+4	0.95	1	13.56	-1.16	23	+17
Jackson_AG	77	29	58	+3	0.43	2	11.27	-2.97	22	+13
Kingston_AG	76	27	54	+2	0.56	1	13.39	-3.66	8	+8
Knoxville_AP	74	27	56	+3	0.48	2	14.46	+0.33	15	+11
Lewisburg	77	24	55	+2	0.42	1	14.10	-1.46	14	+8
Lexington_TN	77	27	57	+2	0.49	1	12.69	-1.45	19	+19
Linden	79	24	57	+3	0.40	1	17.17	+1.19	22	+16
Martin	76	29	56	+3	0.50	1	11.82	-2.44	18	+12
Mc_Minnville_Tn	76	25	58	+3	1.01	2	14.79	-0.61	15	+5
Memphis_AG	77	31	59	-1	0.00	0	12.60	-1.97	22	+5
Milan	78	26	57	+3	0.51	1	13.03	-1.57	23	+17
Murfreesboro_5N	76	24	55	+1	0.48	1	14.75	+0.04	17	+1
Nashville_Metro	77	27	57	+2	0.73	1	13.47	+0.33	23	+17
Newcomb	79	25	54	+4	0.55	2	12.67	-2.12	17	+17
Oneida	76	25	54	+4	0.51	2	12.49	-2.30	13	+6
Pikeville	76	25	55	+0	0.99	2	15.73	-0.36	7	+1
Portland_TN	77	29	55	+2	0.59	1	12.56	-1.66	17	+15
Pulaski_Water_P	76	25	56	-3	0.20	1	17.44	+1.05	17	+6
Savannah_6SW	75	27	56	-3	0.41	1	15.93	-0.61	13	+7
Sparta_TN	76	23	56	+3	1.42	2	15.76	+0.24	12	+11
Springfield	77	27	55	+3	0.60	2	11.27	-2.50	20	+16
Springhill	81	26	56	+3	0.80	1	17.06	+1.41	16	+10
Union_City	75	29	55	+2	0.64	1	12.60	-1.55	14	+8

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 Copyright 2003: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved

The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:
 National Weather Service, and the University of Tennessee’s Extension Service.